

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-22 are pending in the present application. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Claims 18-22 are newly added. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1, 10, 14, 17, 18 and 22 are independent claims.

Examiner's Election of Species Requirement

The Examiner has required election of one of the following species:

Species 1, illustrated in Figures 3 and 7;

Species 2, illustrated in Figures 4 and 7;

Species 3, illustrated in Figures 5 and 7;

Species 4, illustrated in Figures 6 and 8;

Species 5, illustrated in Figure 9A;

Species 6, illustrated in Figure 9B; or

Species 7, illustrated in Figure 10.

Applicant's Election

In response to the Examiner's election requirement, Applicant elects, without traverse, Species 5, illustrated in Figure 9A. Claims 1, 9 and 18-22 are directed to the elected species. Applicant confirms that a generic claim does not currently exist that is directed to all of the aforementioned species.

Applicant specifically reserves the right to pursue protection for the non-elected species in related divisional and continuing applications.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of each of claims 1 and 3-22 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.


Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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